

PRESS RELEASE

STRATEGIC PLAN PUBLIC INPUT MEETING

Beginning in September 2011, a group of over 30 persons, representing a variety of businesses, organizations, governments and other local community leaders began to discuss the best ways to take responsibility for the future of Edgefield County. The group has reviewed a 2008 plan that was the results of efforts by the Edgefield Chamber of Commerce and the State Department of Commerce, and its established goals in the areas of Economic Development, Education and Quality of Life. While that plan began with three timely areas of focus, it suffered in several places from a lack of “ownership” beyond those directly involved in its creation. In addition it lacked an accountable mechanism that would follow up on commitments and expected outcomes.

The process which begun this fall has identified the same three areas, as well as a pressing need for infrastructure improvements. The working group, the Edgefield County Strategic Planning Steering Committee, wants to solicit broader participation and input from the citizens of the County. Two public input meetings have been scheduled:

Thursday, November 10, 2011 at Merriwether Middle School

Tuesday, November 15, 2011 at J.E.T. Middle School

Both of the meetings will start at 6 pm with 40 minutes for each focus area. The committee will receive input as follows:

Education 6:00 – 6:40 pm

Economic Development 6:45 – 7:25 pm

Infrastructure 7:30 – 8:10

Quality of Life 8:15 – 9:00 pm

We encourage you to come to at least one or both of these meetings and give your input. You can choose one of the topics to give or provide input at all four.

Once these meetings are completed, the Steering Committee will meet on Tuesday, November 29, at 6 pm, at the Edgefield County Council Chambers, to assess the results of the public input sessions. Once public input is finished, the Steering Committee will complete the final plan that will be recommended to County Council hopefully at their March meeting.

If you are unable to attend one of the two public meetings and would like to give input you can email Roger LeDuc, Interim Edgefield County Administrator at rleduc@edgefieldcounty.sc.gov. If you have any questions please call our office at 803-637-4000.